
Judiciary Committee

HB 2466

Title: An act relating to the regulation of ignition interlock devices.

Brief Description: Concerning the regulation of ignition interlock devices by the Washington state patrol.

Sponsors: Representatives Goodman, Rodne, Kelley, Roberts, Johnson, Ericks, Hudgins and Hurst; by request of Washington State Patrol.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Authorizes the Washington State Patrol (WSP) to inspect the records and equipment of ignition interlock manufacturers, vendors, and customers.
- Authorizes the WSP to suspend or revoke the certification of an ignition interlock device and the installation privileges of a provider or installer for noncompliance.
- Requires ignition interlock devices to employ fuel cell technology.

Hearing Date: 1/14/10

Staff: Trudes Tango (786-7384).

Background:

The WSP, by rule, provides standards for the certification, installation, repair, and removal of ignition interlock devices. Under the WSP rules, the ignition interlock device must meet certain specifications. For example, the device must meet or exceed minimum test standards of the model specifications for ignition interlock devices published under federal law. The device must also allow for retesting, record each time the vehicle is started, record the results of the test, and record how long the vehicle was operated.

The rules require approved service providers of ignition interlock devices to meet certain criteria and follow certain procedures. For example, an approved service provider must download client data and report the data, if required, to the court, the Department of Licensing (DOL), or the

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WSP. An approved service provider must maintain records of calibrations and other services performed on the devices and must keep client data for at least two years from the date the device is removed from a client's vehicle.

In 2008, the Legislature enacted the ignition interlock license law, which included a pilot project requiring the WSP to monitor compliance of ignition interlock device users, manufacturers, vendors, and installers in two counties.

Summary of Bill:

The WSP may inspect the records and equipment of manufacturers, vendors, and customers for compliance with the statutes and rules. The WSP may suspend or revoke certification of a device and may suspend or revoke the installation privileges of an authorized service provider or installer of ignition interlock devices for any noncompliance. During any period of suspension or revocation, the provider or installer is responsible for notifying its customers of any changes to their service agreements.

A provider or installer whose certification has been suspended or revoked may seek an administrative hearing upon written request received by the WSP within 20 days after the receipt of the notice of suspension or revocation.

An ignition interlock device must employ fuel cell technology, meet or exceed minimum test standards provided in the federal model specifications, and be maintained in accordance with the rules and standards adopted by the WSP.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.